

*File Copy*

12 February 1958

MEMO TO FILE

SUBJECT: THOR-117L Integration

1. A meeting was held 24 January 1958 to discuss the above subject. The following personnel attended:

Lt. Colonel R.E. Robertson	MCPTD
Lt. Colonel J. Seay	MCPTA
Major D.M. Billick	MCPTA
Capt. W. Jeancon	MCPTD
Mr. S. Lovas	MCPTD

2. The discussion concerned the use of a THOR missile as a booster to be used in conjunction with the 117L. Under the present plan of activating THOR squadrons, it is contemplated that five THOR missiles will be available in CY-58 over and above squadron requirements. These can be used for special projects. It was thought that perhaps four of the five missiles would be used for the project relating to the 117L. It appeared that four missiles would be made available for the proposed program on a non-reimbursable basis. Four more - and possibly six more - would be provided from the THOR production line, and the 117L Project Office would arrange to reimburse the 315A Project Office for this second group of missiles. Since the (six) missiles will be bought for production at the tail end of present contracts, it appears that funds need not be furnished to the 315A Project Office until the beginning of FY-59. The first four missiles will be of the 120 series.

3. It is contemplated that there will probably be five firings at Patrick and five at Cooke.

*RESOLVED on (10) at Cooke Air Force Base*

4. It will be necessary to determine what GSE will be required to support Cooke and to identify the items for which the 117L Project will give us money. Col. Seay indicated they would use one of the stands at SAC. We need to know what stand will be used.

5. It was agreed that only a matter of allocation is involved at the present time and no funds need be transferred this fiscal year. Ten missiles can be diverted from our contracts as needed.

6. We will need money in FY-59 and will add the six additional requirements to our third contract probably.

7. We can issue a CCN to Douglas to tell them what they must do to adapt the missile to the 117L. Col. Seay will give us a note stating exactly what is required. We will then ask Douglas what they need and when in the way of GSE.

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On 1/10/58

8. On 4 February another meeting was held, attended by personnel from Lockheed, Douglas, BMD and BMO. The meeting was called for the purpose of setting up some kind of work statement in connection with the THOR-117L program. A Memorandum of Understanding was desired, setting out who was to do what on the setting up of schedules. The group, excluding BMO, had had a meeting previously, and some of the items unsettled at that time were to be discussed and resolved in this meeting. It was desired to obtain certain facts which would be the basis for instructing Douglas contractually to accomplish their portion of the program. Lockheed was concerned about the weight of the missiles to be allocated for this project. They wanted the lightest missile possible and felt that the approximately 19,000 pounds of instrumentation, which would be incorporated into the missiles they were to receive, might prove to be a significant and excessive weight which might jeopardize the program. They wanted to know the exact number of the missiles to be used, and the exact weight of these missiles rather than the generalized weight and balance statement for the typical missiles involved. After considerable discussion on this point, it was agreed this information would be furnished to Lockheed. However, the missiles would be pre -138 missiles. Lockheed desired to know how many missiles would be involved. It was indicated there would be five at Patrick and five at Cooke. The ten missiles would be fired through July 1959. This represented launching time, and deliveries would have to be earlier. Only one stand would be used at Patrick consecutively for the five firings.

9. With respect to the wind tunnel program responsibility, Lockheed thought this would be their responsibility, although they would furnish the results of their efforts to SRD as well as Douglas. Douglas was satisfied to see the results of the test.

10. Douglas wanted to know if a work statement could be set up in the matter of a few days. Col. Greene and Major Wilson were to get together on this matter. Douglas was to give us its comments on a work statement right away so that these could be studied and an agreement reached. There was thought the work statement would be available and coordinated with Lockheed by the end of this week. It would be a preliminary document but fairly definitive.

11. With respect to the modification of facilities at Patrick, Lockheed proposed to furnish design data to Douglas who would work out with the Base the provisioning of the required facilities. Douglas was cautioned to insure that the Base would in fact provide these needs, because it would be extremely difficult to charge the cost against a supply contract.

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already knew - that without contractual coverage Contractor was proceeding at its own risk. It was suggested to BMD that, since this appeared to be an urgent project, a Purchase Request setting forth the requirement be hand-carried to BMO so that a letter supplement could be issued without delay. It was indicated a PR had been started covering studies which included, but were not limited to, the project under discussion. Moreover, the PR made no reference to hardware requirements. Douglas indicated it needed coverage within a week for work which would encompass production of hardware. BMD was asked to modify the PR now in process, or initiate another one which would permit BMO to act expeditiously.

13. Lockheed was interested in knowing whether they could work with AC in a manner parallel to the way they were working with Douglas. This appeared to be satisfactory to the group except that BMD would be informed of all matters under consideration so that it could take a hand as appeared appropriate. Col. Seay indicated he would like to amend the AC contract as Lockheed's contract has been amended. The same situation exists between RW-AC as between RW-DAC. A question was raised as to whether a call contract could be used covering R-W's work with Lockheed. Col. Seay was to check on this. Lockheed indicated they might need a nose section of the missile in connection with the designing of the interconnector above the interface. This matter is to be resolved. It was understood that Douglas would not investigate heat problems as this is the primary responsibility of Lockheed. AC has responsibility in connection with the guidance system. Lockheed wondered whether BMD wanted Lockheed to know what material GE is working with. They indicated Lockheed had a limited "need-to-know." It was indicated this was a slightly different area because we planned the work GE did on re-entry configuration would be subcontracted from Lockheed to GE.

14. Lockheed again stressed that weight was a serious problem. Several suggestions were discussed for reducing weight, including elimination of fins and reduction of weight in connection with the shock mount on the guidance sections, which is to be the subject of a reduction program in the future. The 100-200 pounds weight saving in connection with this latter item appealed to Lockheed. There was some question about the desirability of making this change for the sake of saving weight without trying out the modification on missiles fired prior to the time needed for this program. It seems like a considerable gamble might be involved for the weight saving gained. This was to be a matter for further discussion by the group.

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15. Lockheed advised it had had a meeting at Patrick in connection with GSE. It was their opinion that there would be no particularly difficult problems which could not be solved. They outlined five or six key matters which they had had under consideration. The height problem with respect to stand 17A had been essentially licked. Lockheed had discussed GSE problems with the Base and had reached agreements on most items. They will talk to Douglas this week so that they can reach joint agreement on the items involved. Lockheed considered that Douglas would take care of any work required at the Base. It was indicated that as of yesterday no official word to AETC had been given regarding this program. BMD advised it expects to have a meeting next week at Patrick with test people to

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16. As a result of some discussion, Lockheed will do away with fuel and acid dump trailers. The amount of space to be made available to Lockheed was discussed. It appeared that 4 square feet required in the blocks might not be available. Lockheed thought they might be able to cut back sufficiently to fit into the space available.

17. Lockheed desired to discuss the program at Cooke but the personnel best informed in this area are currently in England. Lockheed's concern revolved around the problem whether they should re-orient or build new launchers, and whether the launchers available could be turned 60°, thereby eliminating the need for new ones. There will be another meeting tomorrow at 9 o'clock at Douglas to discuss this matter further.



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